UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/656,511	09/07/2000	Fred S. Cook	1412	2314

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EXAMINER
GREENE, DANIEL L

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
3621	

DATE MAILED: 08/05/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	09/656,511	COOK, FRED S.
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Daniel L. Greene	3621	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) FROM
THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed
  after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
  Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any
  earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>05 May 2005</u>.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**.　　　2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is
closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1,3-10,12-19 and 21-27* is/are pending in the application.

　　4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1,3-10,12-19 and 21-27* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

　　Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

　　Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

　　a)☐ All　b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

　　　1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

　　　2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

　　　3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage
application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

　　* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)　　　　4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)　　　Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
3)☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)　5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
　　Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ .　　　　　　　　6)☐ Other: _____ .

EA

DETAILED ACTION

Status of Claims

2. Applicant has amended claims 1, 3, 6, 7, 9, 10, 12, 15, 16, 18, 19, 21, 24, 25 and 27.

Thus, claims 1, 3-10, 12-19 and 21-27 remain pending and are again presented for

examination.

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments with respect to the claims have been considered but are moot

in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set
> forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and
> the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the
> invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains.
> Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. **Claims 1, 3-10, 12-19 and 21-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being**

unpatentable over Cooper et al, U.S. Patent Application Publication No. US

2002/0029350 A1 in view of Kloc et al, U.S. Patent No. 5,241,565, de Fabrega, U.S.

Patent Application Publication No. US 2001/0054019 A1, and Tatham et al, U.S.

Patent No. 6,223,177 B1.

As per **Claim 1**, Cooper et al disclose method for providing access to an intranet, the method comprising:

- providing intranet access cards to users, wherein the intranet access cards include intranet access information for intranet configurations (0287);

Cooper et al does not expressly show a first requesting communication device employed by a first user.

However these differences are only found in the nonfunctional descriptive material and are not functionally involved in the steps recited. The receiving a request message for access to the intranet step would be performed the same regardless if it was from a first, second, etc. communication device. Thus, this descriptive material will not distinguish the claimed invention from the prior art in terms of patentability, *see In re Gulack*, 703 F.2d 1381, 1385, 217 USPQ 401, 404 (Fed. Cir. 1983); *In re Lowry*, 32 F.3d 1579, 32 USPQ2d 1031 (Fed. Cir. 1994).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to receive a first request message for access to the intranet from a first requesting communication device employed by a first user because such modifiers, i.e. "first" do not functionally relate to the steps in the method claimed and because the subjective interpretation of the data does not patentably distinguish the claimed invention.

Therefore, Cooper et al discloses:

- receiving a first request message for access to the intranet from a first

requesting communication device employed by a first user who receives a first intranet

access card (0294; 0296; 0298, 0299, 0309, 0321);

Cooper et al further discloses:

- processing the first request message to determine if an intranet configuration

providing access to intranet services exists, wherein first intranet access information for

the intranet configuration is produced, wherein the intranet configuration defines at least

one connection employable by a user between a plurality of intranet communication

devices within the intranet (0294; 0296; 0298; 0312);

Cooper et al does not expressly show a first requesting communication device.

However these differences are only found in the nonfunctional descriptive

material and are not functionally involved in the steps recited. The receiving a request

message for access to the intranet step would be performed the same regardless if it

was from a first, second, etc. communication device. Thus, this descriptive material will

not distinguish the claimed invention from the prior art in terms of patentability, *see In re

Gulack*, 703 F.2d 1381, 1385, 217 USPQ 401, 404 (Fed. Cir. 1983); *In re Lowry*, 32

F.3d 1579, 32 USPQ2d 1031 (Fed. Cir. 1994).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to receive a first request message for access to the intranet from a

first requesting communication device of the first user because such modifiers, i.e. "first"

do not functionally relate to the steps in the method claimed and because the subjective

interpretation of the data does not patentably distinguish the claimed invention.

Therefore, Cooper et al discloses:

- in response to determining the intranet configuration exists, processing the first

intranet access information to connect first requesting communication device of the first

user to the intranet configuration to provide intranet services associated with the first

intranet access card to the first user, wherein the intranet services provided depend on

the intranet configuration (0294; 0298; 0299; 0312);

Cooper et al, however, does not disclose creating an intranet configuration and

creating a first card configuration for the first intranet access card in response to

determining the intranet configuration does not exist and connecting the user to the

intranet configuration since Cooper et al assumes that the authenticated user already

has been previously configured for access. De Fabrega discloses a public access kiosk

providing the capability to access an intranet and teaches accessing an existing intranet

customer configuration using a prepaid card (0023; 0032; 0054; 0056; 0057; 0063). De

Fabrega also disclose the ability to create an intranet configuration if one does not yet

exist for the customer and connecting the customer to the configuration after it is

created (0023; 0032; 0053; 0054). Accordingly, it would have been obvious to one of

ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to modify the method of

Cooper et al and adopt the teachings of de Fabrega by incorporating the ability to create

a intranet configuration for users that have not yet established an intranet configuration

by executing a script and connecting the users to this newly established configuration

and provide particular services to the user based on configuration data stored on the

card as taught by Cooper. One would have been motivated to include this feature so

that new users would have a means of establishing an account or configuration in order

to use the services offered by the intranet.

Although it may have been obvious in view of the teachings of Cooper that at

least one connection might be usable by a plurality of users such as users or members

of a particular group or team that have the same connection parameters, Cooper fails to

specifically disclose this. Tatham discloses a network based groupware system and

teaches the establishment of a dedicated intranet site wherein a plurality of users may

connect to the intranet configuration (Col. 3, lines 50-55; Col. 4, lines 1-10, 25-35 and

42-60). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of

applicant's invention to modify the method of Cooper and include the ability for a

plurality of users to use a particular intranet configuration as taught by Tatham et al.

Tatham et al provides motivation by indicating that there is a frequent need for a

collaborative computing environment wherein people from different offices, different

organizations and even different countries have a need to work together on the same

project or goal (Col. 1, lines 10-20).

Cooper et al further discloses:

wherein the first card configuration associates the first intranet access card with

the intranet configuration: (0287)

Cooper et al discloses the claimed invention except for wherein the first card

configuration comprises information for configuring the first communication device of the

first user for optimal access speed over the connection with the intranet configuration.

How ever, Cooper et al does teach about the network connection parameters will

automatically be configured when the user accesses the network by either reading the

parameters from the user access card or read from the server. (0294), (0312) Kloc et al

teaches that it is known in the art to provide wherein the first card configuration

comprises information for configuring the first communication device of the first user for

optimal access speed over the connection with the intranet configuration. Col. 2, lines

65-67, Col. 3, lines 1-10. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the

art at the time the invention was made to provide the intranet access card of Cooper et

al with the first card configuration comprising information for configuring the first

communication device of the first user for optimal access speed over the connection

with the intranet configuration of Kloc et al, in order to provide the most efficient mode of

operation.

As per **Claim 3**, Cooper et al further disclose:

- in response to determining the intranet configuration exists, processing the first

intranet access information to determine if the first card configuration exists (0294;

0296).

Cooper et al, however, does not disclose creating a first card configuration in

response to determining the first card configuration does not exist and connecting the

first user to the intranet configuration since Cooper et al assumes that the authenticated

user already has been previously configured for access. De Fabrega discloses a public

access kiosk providing the capability to access an intranet and teaches accessing an

existing intranet customer configuration using a prepaid card (0023; 0032; 0054; 0056;

0057; 0063). De Fabrega also disclose the ability to create an intranet configuration if one does not yet exist for the customer and connecting the customer to the configuration after it is created (0023; 0032; 0053; 0054). Accordingly, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to modify the method of Cooper et al and adopt the teachings of de Fabrega by incorporating the ability to create a intranet configuration for users that have not yet established an intranet configuration and connecting the users to this newly established configuration and provide particular services to the user based on configuration data stored on the card as taught by Cooper. One would have been motivated to include this feature so that new users would have a means of establishing an account or configuration in order to use the services offered by the intranet.

As per **Claim 4**, Cooper et al further disclose (see 0287; 0294; 0297; 0298; 0312):

- generating a first query message that includes a request for first intranet access information provided with the first intranet access card;

- transmitting the first query message;

- receiving a first response message that includes the first intranet access information; and

- processing the first intranet access information to determine if the intranet configuration

exists.

As per **Claim 5**, Cooper et al further disclose (see 0287; 0292; 0293; 0296; 0297;

0298; 0299; 0312):

- processing the first intranet access information to validate the first intranet

access card;

As per **Claim 6**, Cooper et al further disclose:

- in response to validating the first intranet access card, executing an intranet

card configuration script to configure a requesting communication device for access to

the intranet configuration using the first intranet card (0287; 0294; 0298; 0299; 0312);

and

- storing the first card configuration (0294).

Claims 7-9 are rejected under the same rationale as discussed above with

respect to claims 1 and 4-6. Furthermore, it would have been obvious to one having

ordinary skill in the art, in view of the teachings of Cooper et al, that multiple user cards

and multiple user intranet configurations would exist since Cooper et al disclose that

each user is provided with a User Access Card (UAC) that contains the actual network

configuration address and parameters for the users access. Thus, the system as taught

by Cooper et al would provide access to any number of users with different

configurations.

As per **Claims 10 and 19**, Cooper et al disclose an intranet platform system

comprising:

a processing system (Figures 1-2) configured to process a first request message

from a first requesting communication device employed by a user having a first intranet

access card to determine if an intranet configuration exists, wherein first intranet access

information for an intranet configuration providing access to intranet services is

produced (0294; 0296; 0309), wherein the intranet configuration defines at least one

connection employable by a user between a plurality of intranet communication devices

within the intranet (0294; 0296; 0298, 0299, 0309, 0321), in response to determining the

intranet configuration exists, processing the first intranet access information to connect

the first requesting communication device of the first user to the intranet configuration

to provide intranet services associated with the first intranet access card to the first

user, wherein the intranet services provided depend on the intranet configuration (0294;

0298; 0299; 0312). As per Claim 1, the modifiers added to a communication device, i.e.

first, second, etc., is nonfunctional language and does not render the limitation original

or nonobvious.

an interface system (Figures 1-2) coupled to the processing system and

configured to receive the first request message for the processing system from the first

user who receives a first intranet access card (0294; 0296);

a storage medium operational to store processing system instructions and

interface system instructions (Figures 1-2

Cooper et al, however, does not disclose creating an intranet configuration in

response to determining the intranet configuration does not exist and connecting the

user to the intranet configuration since Cooper et al assumes that the authenticated

user already has been previously configured for access. De Fabrega discloses a public

access kiosk providing the capability to access an intranet and teaches accessing an

existing intranet customer configuration using a prepaid card (0023; 0032; 0054; 0056;

0057; 0063). De Fabrega also disclose the ability to create an intranet configuration if

one does not yet exist for the customer and connecting the customer to the

configuration after it is created (0023; 0032; 0053; 0054). Accordingly, it would have

been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to

modify the method of Cooper et al and adopt the teachings of de Fabrega by

incorporating the ability to create a intranet configuration for users that have not yet

established an intranet configuration by executing a script and connecting the users to

this newly established configuration and provide particular services to the user based on

configuration data stored on the card as taught by Cooper. One would have been

motivated to include this feature so that new users would have a means of establishing

an account or configuration in order to use the services offered by the intranet.

Although it may have been obvious in view of the teachings of Cooper that at

least one connection might be usable by a plurality of users such as users or members

of a particular group or team that have the same connection parameters, Cooper fails to

specifically disclose this. Tatham discloses a network based groupware system and

teaches the establishment of a dedicated intranet site wherein a plurality of users may

connect to the intranet configuration (Col. 3, lines 50-55; Col. 4, lines 1-10, 25-35 and

42-60). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of

applicant's invention to modify the method of Cooper and include the ability for a

plurality of users to use a particular intranet configuration as taught by Tatham et al.

Tatham et al provides motivation by indicating that there is a frequent need for a

collaborative computing environment wherein people from different offices, different

organizations and even different countries have a need to work together on the same

project or goal (Col. 1, lines 10-20).

Cooper et al further discloses:

wherein the first card configuration associates the first intranet access card with

the intranet configuration: (0287)

Cooper et al discloses the claimed invention except for wherein the first card

configuration comprises information for configuring the first communication device of the

first user for optimal access speed over the connection with the intranet configuration.

How ever, Cooper et al does teach about the network connection parameters will

automatically be configured when the user accesses the network by either reading the

parameters from the user access card or read from the server. (0294), (0312) Kloc et al

teaches that it is known in the art to provide wherein the first card configuration

comprises information for configuring the first communication device of the first user for

optimal access speed over the connection with the intranet configuration. Col. 2, lines

65-67, Col. 3, lines 1-10. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the

art at the time the invention was made to provide the intranet access card of Cooper et

al with the first card configuration comprising information for configuring the first

communication device of the first user for optimal access speed over the connection

with the intranet configuration of Kloc et al, in order to provide the most efficient mode of

operation.

As per **Claims 12 and 21**, Cooper et al further disclose wherein the processing

system is configured to :

- in response to determining the intranet configuration exists, processing the first

intranet access information to determine if the first card configuration exists (0294;

0296);

Cooper et al, however, does not disclose creating a first card configuration in

response to determining the first card configuration does not exist and connecting the

first user to the intranet configuration since Cooper et al assumes that the authenticated

user already has been previously configured for access. De Fabrega discloses a public

access kiosk providing the capability to access an intranet and teaches accessing an

existing intranet customer configuration using a prepaid card (0023; 0032; 0054; 0056;

0057; 0063). De Fabrega also disclose the ability to create an intranet configuration if

one does not yet exist for the customer and connecting the customer to the

configuration after it is created (0023; 0032; 0053; 0054). Accordingly, it would have

been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to

modify the method of Cooper et al and adopt the teachings of de Fabrega by

incorporating the ability to create a intranet configuration for users that have not yet

established an intranet configuration and connecting the users to this newly established

configuration. One would have been motivated to include this feature so that new users

would have a means of establishing an account or configuration in order to use the

services offered by the intranet.

As per **Claims 13 and 22**, Cooper et al further disclose wherein the processing

system is configured to (see 0287; 0294; 0297; 0298; 0312):

- generating a first query message that includes a request for first

intranet access information provided with the first intranet access card; and

- processing the first intranet access information to determine if the intranet

configuration

exists; and wherein the interface system is configured to:

- transmitting the first query message;

- receiving a first response message for the processing system

As per **Claims 14 and 23**, Cooper et al further disclose wherein the processing

system is configured to (see 0287; 0292; 0293; 0296; 0297; 0298; 0299; 0312):

- processing the first intranet access information to validate the first intranet

access card;

As per **Claims 15 and 24**, Cooper et al further disclose wherein the processing

system is configured:

- in response to validating the first intranet access card, executing an intranet

card configuration script to configure a requesting communication device for access to

the intranet configuration using the first intranet card (0287; 0294; 0298; 0299; 0312);

and

- storing the first card configuration (0294).

Claims 16-18 are rejected under the same rationale as discussed above with

respect to claims 10 and 13-15. Furthermore, it would have been obvious to one having

ordinary skill in the art, in view of the teachings of Cooper et al, that multiple user cards

and multiple user intranet configurations would exist since Cooper et al disclose that

each user is provided with a User Access Card (UAC) that contains the actual network

configuration address and parameters for the users access. Thus, the system as taught

by Cooper et al would provide access to any number of users with different

configurations.

Claims 25-27 are rejected under the same rationale as discussed above with

respect to claims 19 and 22-24. Furthermore, it would have been obvious to one having

ordinary skill in the art, in view of the teachings of Cooper et al, that multiple user cards

and multiple user intranet configurations would exist since Cooper et al disclose that

each user is provided with a User Access Card (UAC) that contains the actual network

configuration address and parameters for the users access. Thus, the system as taught

by Cooper et al would provide access to any number of users with different

configurations.

Conclusion

6. **Examiner's Note**: Examiner has cited particular paragraphs in the references as

applied to the claims below for the convenience of the applicant. Although the specified

citations are representative of the teachings in the art and are applied to the specific

limitations within the individual claim, other passages and figures may apply as well. It

is respectfully requested from the applicant, in preparing the responses, to fully consider

the references in entirety as potentially teaching all or part of the claimed invention.

1.   Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in

this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** See MPEP

§ 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37

CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE

MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within

TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not

mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the

shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any

extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of

the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.
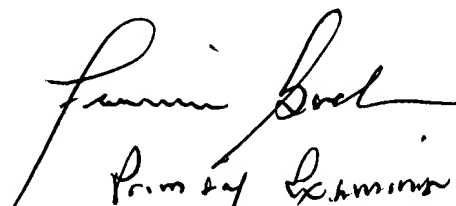
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Daniel L. Greene whose telephone number is 571-272-6707. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Thur. 8am-6pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James P. Trammell can be reached on 571-272-6712. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Daniel L. Greene
Examiner
Art Unit 3621

7/28/2005